

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 CU-02 AGR-05 DOTE-00

HUD-01 INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 SCCT-01 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 COME-00

EB-07 EPA-01 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 OES-03 SS-15 /098 W

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R 220001Z AUG 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1470

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3769

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, UN, CA

SUBJ: HABITAT CONFERENCE -- VANCOUVER VIEWS

REF: STATE 198366

1. DURING PRIVATE VISIT TO VANCOUVER WHILE ON VACATION I
ATTENDED INFORMAL LUNCHEON AUGUST 11 WITH VANCOUVER MAYOR
ART PHILLIPS. LUNCHEON HAD BEEN ARRANGED BY MUTUAL FRIEND
AND CONSUL GENERAL STUTESMAN WAS PRESENT. I HAD PERCEIVED
LUNCHEON AS PUERLY SOCIAL AFFAIR BUT CONVERSATION TURNED
NATURALLY TO UNITED NATIONS AND QUESTION OF HABITAT CONFERENCE
AROSE. MAYOR PHILLIPS MADE NO SECRET OF HIS LACK OF
ENTHUSIASM FOR HAVING VANCOUVER HOST MEETING. HE SAID VANCOUVER
DID NOT NEED TO HAVE ITS HOTELS FILLED WITH DELEGATES;
IN FACT CITY WOULD SUFFER THROUGH HAVING TO TURN AWAY
SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF NORMAL TOURISTS BECAUSE OF LACK OF
ACCOMMODATIONS WHICH WOULD BE IN EFFECT DURING CONFERENCE
PERIOD. HE EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS PARTISAN OF NO-GROWTH
SCHOOL OF THOUGHT FOR VANCOUVER AREA AND SAID HEDID NOT
WISH TO SEE HABITAT AND PUBLICITY WHICH IT WOULD ENGENDER
AS HAVING THE EFFECT O ENCOURAGING ADDITIONAL MIGRATION
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TO BRITISH COLOMBIA. HE DID NOT THINK MERCHANTS HAD ANY

PARTICULAR INTEREST IN CONFERENCE AND SAID THAT ON BALANCE
IMPACT WOULD BE NEGATIVE IN VANCOUVER. HOWEVER, HE SEEMED
RESIGNED TO GOING ALONG WITH IT. HE MAY BE MORE OF A
CIVIC BOOSTER THAN HIS COMMENTS ON HABITAT WOULD INDICATE.

2. RECENT CONTROVERSY INVOLDING CANADA'S PROBLEMS WITH UN
CRIME PREVENTION CONFERENCE CAME UP OFTEN IN MY CONVERSATIONS
IN WESTERN CANADA. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH FROM MY LIMITED
OBSERVATION, MOST CANADIANS WHO MENTIONED IT WERE CRITICAL OF
OTTAWA'S HANDLING OF ISSUE AND EXPRESSED VIEW OTTAWA WAS
PLAYING FEDERAL POLITICS ON MATTER. MAYOR PHILLIPS
AND OTHERS EXPRESSED HOPE ISSUE WOULD NOT ARISE IN
CONNECTION WITH HABITAT AND TOOK POSITION PLO WOULD CAUSE
THEM NO PARTICULAR PROBLEMS IN VANCOUVER.
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